



Radix auricularia

European ear snail

General

1. Freshwater gastropod growing to 35mm in height

Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Europe and Asia
2. Habitat:
 - Freshwater lakes, ponds, and slow-moving rivers with mud bottoms
 - May live on boulders or vegetation in low or high flow environments; capable of tolerating anoxic conditions
 - Prefer waters with a high silt substrate
 - Average thermal preference is 19°C, but with great fluctuation around this mean depending on photoperiod and time of year

Invasion Pathways

1. Unintentional introduction on plants imported for cultivation
2. Subsequent release of specimens from aquaria (considering patchiness of distribution, it is likely that *R. auricularia* was introduced multiple times)

Sources

1. <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?SpeciesID=1012>



Photo: USGS
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